

Los Angeles County Floodplain Management Plan 2015 Update

Informational Open House

December 3, 2014 & January 10, 2015





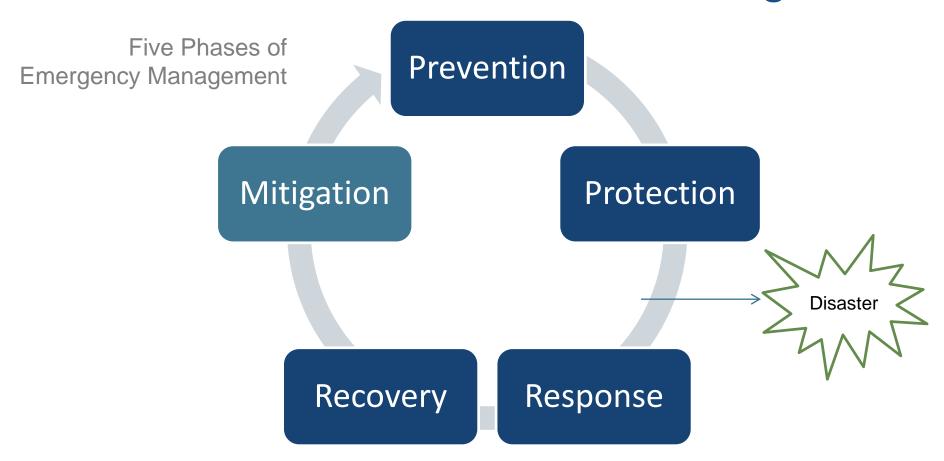
What We will Talk About

- What is Mitigation?
- What is a Floodplain Management Plan (FMP)?
- Why develop a FMP?
- What is the Community Rating System (CRS)?
- What is the process for FMP Development?
- How will the FMP assess risk?





What is Mitigation?



"Sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property"





What is a Floodplain Management Plan?

An overall strategy of programs, projects, and measures aimed at reducing the adverse impacts of flood hazards on the community.





What is a Floodplain Management Plan?

A well prepared plan will:

- Perform a comprehensive review of alternatives;
- Identify and prioritize actions;
- Involve the public;
- Educate the public;
- Meet defined goals and objectives.





Why develop a Floodplain Management Plan?

Because flooding is a problem in Los Angeles County:

- There have been more than 30 state or federal floodrelated disaster declarations affecting the communities of Los Angeles County since 1950.
- Between 1992 and 2002 Los Angeles County was declared a federal disaster area 5 times.











Why develop a Floodplain Management Plan?

Types of flooding and flood-related hazards:

- Alluvial fan flooding
- Coastal flooding
- Flash flooding
- Fluvial flooding
- Lake flooding
- Levee flooding

- Mudslides
- Riverine flooding
- Seiche
- Tsunami
- Dam inundation





Why develop a Floodplain Management Plan?

- Can act as the keyway to funding
- Proactive vs. reactive
- The blueprint for flood risk reduction
- Support other planning mechanisms
 - County Hazard Mitigation Plan
 - Land Use plans
 - Watershed plans
- The Community Rating System (CRS)





What is the Community Rating System (CRS)?

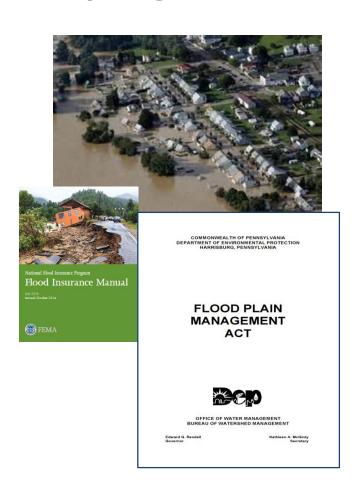
- A voluntary incentive program
- Part of the National Flood Insurance Program
- Administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Encourages National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)
 Communities to perform floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements.





CRS program Goals

- Reduce flood damages to insurable property
- Strengthen and support the insurance aspects of the NFIP
- Promote a comprehensive approach to floodplain management







CRS and Los Angeles County

- LA County first joined the CRS program in 1990.
- As of May 2011, the County has earned a Class 7 rating.
- Up to 15% reduction on flood insurance premium for residents purchasing or renewing their policies in the unincorporated areas of the County.
- The 1,965 flood insurance policy holders are saving approximately \$354,830 (\$181 per policy) annually in insurance premiums.
- This Plan update will act as the conduit to improving classification to class 6 or better.

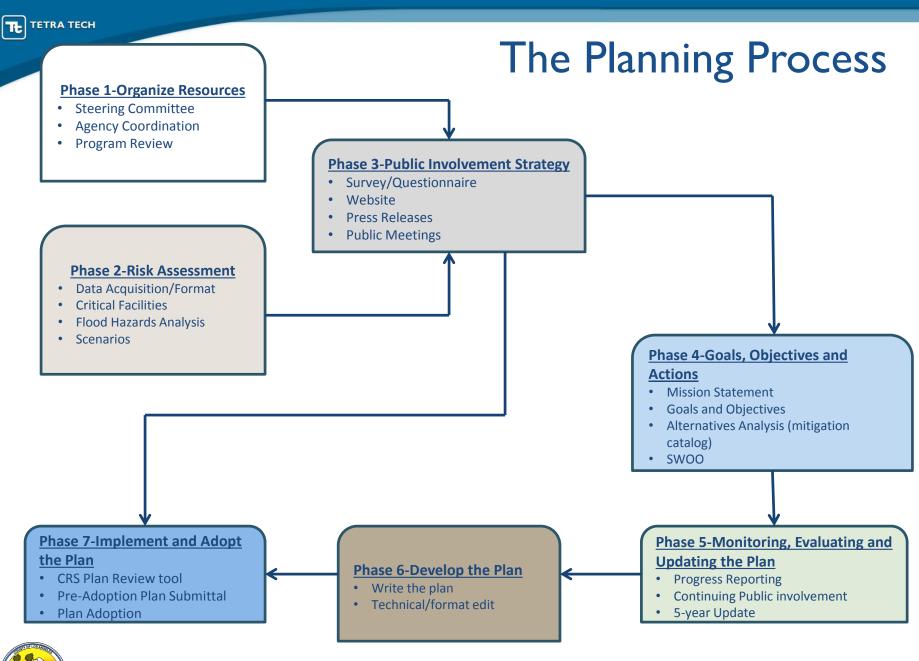




The Planning Process

- Primary objectives:
 - Maximize points under the Floodplain Management Plan Activity
 - CRS Class 4 or better prerequisites
 - Create a Program for Public Information (PPI) as part of the planning process.
- Planning process will follow the CRS 10-step process
- Scope of work has 7 principal phases.









The Steering Committee

- A 13 member Steering Committee is overseeing the FMP update
- Comprised of non-governmental and governmental stakeholders
- Has met 4 times since August 2014
- All meetings are open to the public

Next Steering Committee Meeting

Tuesday, January 27th

10:30 AM to 12:30 PM

LA County DPW Headquarters

900 S. Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91803





The Mission Statement

Protect life, property, the economy and the environment of Los Angeles County by identifying and communicating risks and sustainable actions to reduce flood hazards.





Goals

- Protect life, safety, property and economy.
- Work with local citizens and watershed management groups so that residents understand the flood hazard of the region based upon best available data and science.
- Increase resilience of infrastructure and critical facilities.
- Account for flood risk in land use and planning.
- Preserve, enhance or restore the natural environment's floodplain functions.
- Encourage the development and implementation of longterm, cost-effective and environmentally sound mitigation projects.













The LA County Flood Hazard Risk Assessment





Risk is defined as a function of:

✓ Hazard

 Source of potential danger or adverse condition

☑ Exposure

 Manmade or natural features that are exposed to the hazard

☑ Vulnerability, and

Damage susceptibility of the exposed features

☑ Capability

- Regulatory Capability
- Technical Capability
- Financial Capability

What is Risk?











Risk Reduction

To reduce Risk:

- **Manipulate the Hazard:**
 - structural flood control
- **Reduce Exposure:**
 - property acquisition
- **Reduce Vulnerability:**
 - retrofitting
- **Increase capability:**
 - \$, preparation, technical assistance, planning

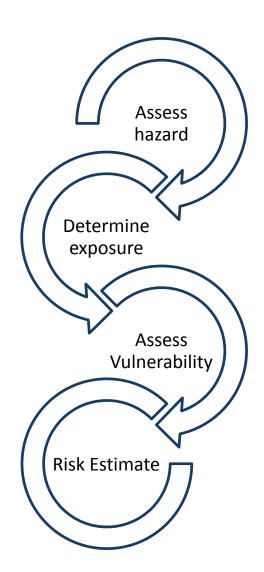


PARTNERSHIP

PROTECTION







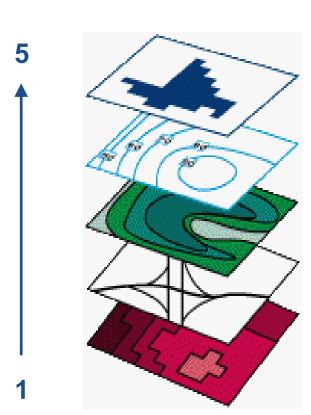
Risk Assessment

- Assess hazard
 - Past events
 - Areas most affected
 - Frequency
 - Severity
 - Warning time for response
- Determine Exposure
- Assess Vulnerability
 - Loss Estimation





Risk Assessment



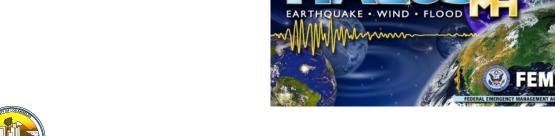
- Hazard Locators (floodplains, dams)
- Inventories (Buildings, roads, critical areas)
- 3. Exposure (Direct and Indirect)
- 4. Disaster Scenario (Vulnerability assessments)
- Suggest Risk Reduction Measures





Introduction to HAZUS-MH

- HAZUS-MH is a powerful risk assessment methodology for analyzing potential losses from floods, hurricane winds and earthquakes.
- Current scientific and engineering knowledge is coupled with the latest geographic information systems (GIS) technology to produce estimates of hazard-related damage before, or after, a disaster occurs.



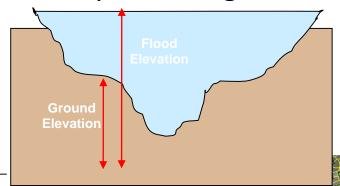




Datum -

Introduction to HAZUS-MH Flood Model

Water Depth Damage Function



Subtract ground surface from flood surface to determine flood depth throughout the study area





Repetitive Loss Properties

- Definition: Any property for which 2 or more flood insurance claims of more than \$1,000 have been paid by the NFIP within any 10-year period since 1978.
- FEMA records indicate there are approximately 50 repetitive loss properties in Los Angeles County.
- The FMP must address repetitive losses through a Repetitive Loss Area Analysis.





Residents' Role in this Open House

- 1. First and foremost, educate yourself on your flood risk.
- Review the information provided on flood hazards and provide feedback to the planning team on your perception of the risk.
 - Does it appear accurate?
 - Does it support what you may have experienced?
- 3. What do you think could be done do to reduce flood risk?





Residents' Role in this Open House

 Complete our on-line questionnaire www.surveymonkey.com/s/LACountyFloodSurvey

Las Appellas Carrets Correts Corrects Florid	
Los Angeles County Survey: Flood Preparedness	
1. Survey Introduction	
CITIZEN PREPAREDNESS QUESTIONNAIRE	
Los Angeles County is a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System (CRS). The County's participation in the CRS Program enables property owners in the unincorporated areas to obtain flood insurance at educed rates. For the National Flood insurance Program regulations, the County is required to update its Floodplan Nanagement Plan for the County unincorporated areas every five years. The Plan is an overall strategy of programs, projects, and measures to reduce the impacts of flood hazards.	
We are seeking input from the residents of the County's unincorporated areas of their local knowledge of and information on flood related hazards. The information that residents provide will help coordinate activities to help reduce the flood risks. In this survey, we refer to flood events, which include major storms such as a 100-year flood, but also smaller storms that result in flooding due to localized drainage issues, hillsde mudflows, and needed drainage facilities.	
This brief survey will take approximately 5-15 minutes to complete. We thank you for your contribution to this information gathering process.	
Please note - A response is required for questions preceded by an asterisk (*).	
1. What is your home address?	
Street Address	
City	
*2. What is your zip code?	
Zip Code	
*3. Do you live in a known floodplain or an area that has been subject to flooding?	
○ Yes	
○ No	
Not Sure	
Please describe any experiences you have had with flooding a	all your current residence:
*4. Do you own or rent your place of residence?	





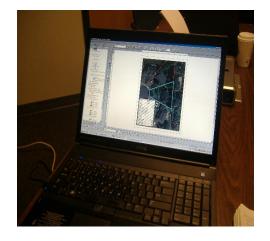


Resident's Role in this Open House

Visit a Hazus Work Station

- Find out the risk exposure of your home
 - Determine extent and location
 - Review loss estimates for flood events
 - Receive a printout of the data













DISCLAIMER!

The Hazus Work Stations

- These are estimates of what COULD happen;
- Not estimates of what WILL happen!
- Based upon best available data and science
- Need to understand that floodplains are dynamic and that modeling represents a snapshot in time.

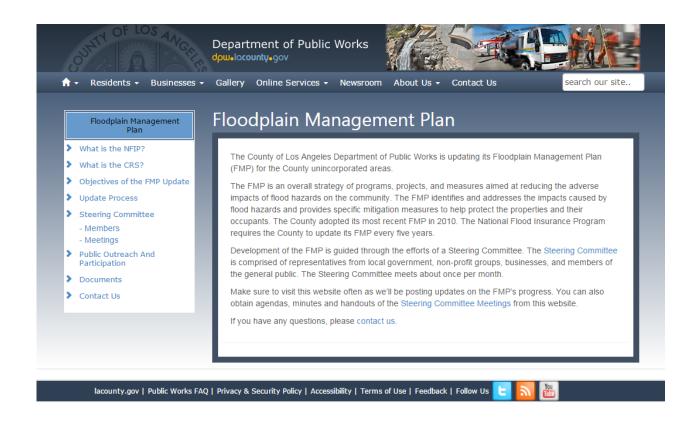




For More Information

Please visit the FMP website at:

www.dpw.lacounty.gov/wmd/nfip/fmp







Questions

